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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Kozo TAKATSU, et al.

SERIAL NO.: NEW U.S. PCT APPLICATION

FILED: HEREWITH

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.: PCT/JP03/16596

INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE: December 24, 2003

FOR: METHOD FOR REMOVING SULFUR COMPOUND IN HYDROCARBON-CONTAINING GAS

**REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION OF DOCUMENTS  
CITED IN INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

Commissioner for Patents

Alexandria, Virginia 22313

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application for patent, notice is hereby given that applicant(s) request that the Examiner consider the documents cited in the International Search Report according to MPEP §609 and so indicate by a statement in the first Office Action that the information has been considered. When the Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicates both the search report and copies of the documents are present in the national stage file, there is no requirement for the applicant(s) to submit them (1156 O.G. 91 November 23, 1993).

Respectfully submitted,

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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/JP03/16596

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

Int.Cl' C10L3/00, C01B3/38, H01M8/06, B01D53/04, B01J20/18,  
B01J23/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Int.Cl' C10L3/00, C01B3/38, H01M8/06, B01D53/04, B01J20/18,  
B01J23/00

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1922-1996 Toroku Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1994-2002  
Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1971-2002 Jitsuyo Shinan Toroku Koho 1996-2004Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)  
WPI/L (QUESTEL)

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 01/72417 A1 (Idemitsu Kosan Co., Ltd.), 04 October, 2001 (04.10.01), Claims & EP 1270069 A1 & JP 2001-279255 A & JP 2001-279260 A & JP 2001-342464 A & JP 2001-342465 A & JP 2001-342466 A & US 2003-113258 A1	1-15
X	JP 2001-278602 A (Idemitsu Kosan Co., Ltd.), 10 October, 2001 (10.10.01), Claims (Family: none)	1-15

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.  See patent family annex.

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search 05 April, 2004 (05.04.04)	Date of mailing of the international search report 20 April, 2004 (20.04.04)
Name and mailing address of the ISA/ Japanese Patent Office	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/JP03/16596

## C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	JP 2001-279257 A (Idemitsu Kosan Co., Ltd.), 10 October, 2001 (10.10.01), Claims (Family: none)	1-15
X	JP 2001-279261 A (Idemitsu Kosan Co., Ltd.), 10 October, 2001 (10.10.01), Claims (Family: none)	1-15
X	WO 2002/038268 A1 (Idemitsu Kosan Co., Ltd.), 16 May, 2002 (16.05.02), Claims & EP 1338335 A1 & JP 2002-540842 A & US 2004-0014600 A1	1-15
X	JP 2002-363574 A (Idemitsu Kosan Co., Ltd.), 18 December, 2002 (18.12.02), Claims (Family: none)	1-15
X	JP 2002-322482 A (Idemitsu Kosan Co., Ltd.), 08 October, 2002 (08.10.02), Claims (Family: none)	1-15
Y	JP 6-287575 A (Ishikawajima-Harima Heavy Industries Co., Ltd.), 11 October, 1994 (11.10.94), Claim (Family: none)	1-7,11-12
Y	JP 3-33191 A (Fuji Electric Co., Ltd.), 13 February, 1991 (13.02.91), Claims (Family: none)	1-7,11-12
P,X	JP 2003-20489 A (Tokyo Gas Co., Ltd.), 24 January, 2003 (24.01.03), Claims (Family: none)	1-15